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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/667,362	09/21/2000	Michael N. Grimbergen	2813.PI/USA/SILICON	9755

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APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.
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EXAMINER

LUND, JEFFRIE ROBERT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1763

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/667,362

Applicant(s)

GRIMBERGEN ET AL.

Examiner

Jeffrie R. Lund

Art Unit

1763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
 Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-69 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 16, 17, 24-29, 37-50 and 65-69 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 18-23, 30-36 and 51-64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3, 6, 7. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 11, 12, 18-21, 23, 30, 31, 34, 51, 55-57, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by van Os et al, US Patent 5,792,272.

Van Os et al teaches the claimed invention in figures 2 and 3a and column 6 lines 27-35.

3. Claims 1-4, 11, 18-21, 23, 30, 31, 34, 51, 55-57, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Desilets et al, US Patent 4,384,938.

Desilets et al teaches the claimed invention in figure 2.

4. Claims 1-4, 11-13, 18-21, 23, 30, 31, 34, 51, 55-57, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Saito et al, US Patent 5,565,114.

Saito et al teaches the claimed invention in figures 26 and 27 and column 24 lines 31-40.

5. Claims 1-7, 11-14, 18-23, 30-35, 51-58, 61, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Imatake et al, US Patent 5,759,424.

Imatake et al teaches the claimed invention in figure 4 and column 14 lines 21-39.

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6. Claims 1-5, 8-13, 18-23, 30-32, 34, 51, 55-60, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Koshimizu, US Patent 5,322,590.

Koshimizu teaches the claimed invention in figure 26 and column 41 lines 4-27.

7. Claims 1, 2, 14, 18, 21, 23, 30, 31, 35, 36, 51, 52, 55, 61 and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by O'Neill et al, US Patent 5,770,097.

O'Neill et al teaches the claimed invention in figure 1 and throughout the specification.

8. Claims 1, 15, 51, and 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Kondo, JP Patent 62-042514A.

Kondo teaches the claimed invention in figure 1 and the abstract.

Conclusion

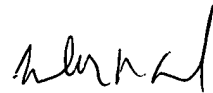
9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited art teaches the technological background of the invention.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrie R. Lund whose telephone number is (703) 308-1796. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (6:30 am-6:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Mills can be reached on (703) 308-1633. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.



Jeffrie R. Lund
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1763

JRL
March 11, 2003
